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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Regarding: Donald J. LaBelle et al.
Serial No. 10/677,855
Filing Date 10/02/2003
Docket No. y-RAIL-592
For CARGO AREA RAIL SYSTEM FOR TONNEAU COVER AND/OR ANOTHER ACCESSORY

December 2005 AF Amendment

Attention: Mail Stop AF
Group Art Unit 3612
Examiner Hilary L. Gutman

Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450:

I certify that this correspondence is facsiile-transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (571 273 8300) on Dec. 15, 2005:

Christopher John Rudy: Christopher John Rudy 12/15/2005.

Thank you for the 10/31/2005 office action for the present patent application. In reply thereto, please reconsider and the application in light of the present amendments and remarks, and withdraw the outstanding objection and rejections.

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS follow this page.

Without entry of new matter this would more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention, and is fully supported by the specification as filed, with the claims fully supported by the pertinent underlying portions of the present specification. With no fee due, claims 1, 3, 4 and 8-24 remain.

The present amendment may be entered because it places the case in condition for allowance, and complies with the Examiner's requirements. No further consideration is needed because present claim 22 now incorporates the rail limitations found in examined claim 1 to address a new rejection (which the previous amendment did not necessitate), and claim 23 is made dependent on claim 22.

The objection to claim 23 is obviated by this amendment.

The rejections of claims 22-24 under 35 USC 102(b) over Marvin '361 and under 35 USC 103(a) over Karrer '153 in view of Marvin '361 are obviated by the present amendment. The rail limitations of allowed claim 1 are now required in claims 22-24.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Dec. 15, 2005 A.D.

Attmt: Pages 2-5

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please entry 12/19/05